

declared that were he to give his own consent to be so exiled they would themselves prevent him. In consequence of this threat Captain Maitland was instructed by Lord Keith to tell those gentlemen that as the English law awarded death to murderers, the crime they meditated would inevitably conduct them to the gallows.

Early on the morning of the 4th of August, the *Bellerophon* was ordered to be ready at a moment's notice for sea. The reason of this was traced to a circumstance which is conspicuous among the many remarkable incidents by which Bonaparte's arrival near the English coast was characterized. A rumor reached Lord Keith that a *habeas corpus* had been procured with a view of delivering Napoleon from the custody he was then in. This, however, turned out to be a *subpoena* for Bonaparte as a witness at a trial in the Court of King's Bench ; and, indeed, a person attempted to get on board the *Bellerophon* to serve the document; but he was foiled in his intention; though, had he succeeded, the *subpoena* would, in the situation wherein the ex-Emperor then stood, have been without avail.

On the 5th Captain Maitland, having been summoned to the flag-ship of Lord Keith, acquainted General Bertrand that he would convey to the Admiral anything which Bonaparte (who had expressed an urgent wish to see his lordship) might desire to say to him. Bertrand requested the captain to delay his departure until a document, then in preparation, should be completed; and at length brought from Napoleon's cabin a paper, of which the following is a translation: —

PROTEST OF HIS MAJESTY THE LATE
EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH,
ETC.

\$J fjerrfrg SOLcmnlg protest, before God and man, against the injustice offered me, and the violation of my most sacred rights, in forcibly disposing of my person and my liberty. I came freely on board the *Bellerophon*; I am not a prisoner; I am the guest of England. I was indeed instigated to come on board by the captain, who told me that he had been directed by his Government to receive me and my suite, and conduct me to England, if agreeable to my wishes. I presented myself in good faith, with the view of claiming the protection of the English laws. As soon as